

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-6 (canceled)

Claims 12-20 (withdrawn)

Claim 7 (currently amended): A computerized method for auctioning products or services, comprising the steps of:

initiating an auction in response to a request from an auctioneer;

in response to the initiation of the auction, receiving one or more bids from a ~~corresponding one or more~~ each of a first plurality of bidders;

selecting a second plurality of the bidders from the first plurality of bidders to form a final bidders set;

designating, in turn, each one of the second plurality of bidders of the final bidders set as the a select bidder until one of an acceptance of either a bid from one of the final second plurality of bidders and or a rejection of all bids from each of the final second plurality of bidders occurs;

for each select bidder,

 sending one or more ~~bidder~~ bids from the select bidder to the auctioneer;

 sending one or more auctioneer bids from the auctioneer to the select bidder; and

 receiving ~~one~~ of an agreement ~~on-a-current-bid~~ or a termination of bidding from one of the auctioneer and or the select bidder.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the auctioneer is a seller of goods or services.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the auctioneer is a buyer of goods or services.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the request includes product/service specifications for a product/service which the auctioneer wishes to sell or buy, a set of alternative payment specifications acceptable to the auctioneer, a set of alternative shipment term specifications acceptable to the auctioneer; and wherein each bid identifies one of the set of alternative payment specifications acceptable to the auctioneer, one of the set of alternative shipment specifications acceptable to the auctioneer, and a desired price for the product/service identified by the product/service specifications.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the request from the auctioneer includes an auction specification, and wherein the method further comprises the step of for each of the one or more bids, verifying that the bid is from an authorized bidder based upon the auction specification.

Claim 21 (new): The method of claim 7 further comprising defining a pre-qualification criteria for the first plurality of bidders to satisfy before being selected as one of the second plurality of bidders.

Claim 22 (new): A computerized method for auctioning a product or a service, the computerized method comprising:
presenting product terms or service terms associated with the product or the service;
receiving one or more bids related to the product or the service from one or more bidders;
selecting a bid from the one or more bids; and
negotiating one or more terms of the product terms or the service terms with the bidder associated with the bid.

Claim 23 (new): The computerized method of claim 22 wherein selecting a bid is determined by predetermined criteria.

Claim 24 (new): The computerized method of claim 22 comprising agreeing to the one or more terms.

Claim 25 (new): The computerized method of claim 22 where negotiating comprises one or more firm offers and one or more firm counter offers.

Claim 26 (new): The computerized method of claim 22 where the product terms or the service terms comprise product or service specifications, payment specifications, shipment terms, grade, packing specification, quality, quantity, origin, destination, payment terms, bank, currency, shipping dates, and/or auction specifications.

Claim 27 (new): The computerized method of claim 22 comprising maintaining the bids not selected.

Claim 28 (new): The computerized method of claim 22 comprising terminating the negotiating due to a time lapse.

Claim 29 (new): The computerized method of claim 28 comprising selecting one of the one or more bids.

Claim 30 (new): The computerized method of claim 28 comprising rejecting all of the one or more bids.

Claim 31 (new): The computerized method of claim 30 comprising paying a fee.

Claim 32 (new): A computerized method for auctioning a product or a service, the computerized method comprising:
presenting product terms or service terms associated with the product or the service;
receiving one or more bids related to the product or the service from one or more bidders;
selecting a first bid and a second bid from the one or more bids;
nominating the first bid or the second bid; and
negotiating one or more terms of the product terms or the service terms with the bidder associated with the first bid or the second bid.

Claim 33 (new): The computerized method of claim 32 wherein selecting a bid is determined by predetermined criteria.

Claim 34 (new): The computerized method of claim 32 where the product terms or the service terms comprise product or service specifications, payment specifications, shipment terms, grade, packing specification, quality, quantity, origin, destination, payment terms, bank, currency, shipping dates, and/or auction specifications.

Claim 35 (new): The computerized method of claim 32 wherein selecting a first bid and a second bid is determined by predetermined criteria.

Claim 36 (new): The computerized method of claim 32 comprising agreeing to the one or more terms.

Claim 37 (new): The computerized method of claim 32 where negotiating comprises one or more firm offers and one or more firm counter offers.

Claim 38 (new): A computerized method for auctioning a product or a service, the computerized method comprising:
sending a bid for the product or the service to an auctioneer;
receiving notice of selection of the bid; and
negotiating one or more terms of a product terms or a service terms with the auctioneer.

Claim 39 (new): The computerized method of claim 38 where the auctioneer is a seller.

Claim 40 (new): The computerized method of claim 38 where the auctioneer is a buyer.

Claim 41 (new): The computerized method of claim 38 where the product terms or the service terms comprise product or service specifications, payment specifications,

shipment terms, grade, packing specification, quality, quantity, origin, destination, payment terms, bank, currency, shipping dates, and/or auction specifications.

Claim 42 (new): The computerized method of claim 38 comprising agreeing to the one or more terms.

Claim 43 (new): The computerized method of claim 38 where negotiating comprises one or more firm offers and one or more firm counter offers.

Claim 44 (new): A computerized method for auctioning a product or a service, the computerized method comprising:

presenting product terms or service terms associated with the product or the service; sending a bid for the product or the service to an auctioneer; receiving one or more bids related to the product or the service from one or more bidders; selecting a bid from the one or more bids; and negotiating one or more terms of the product terms or the service terms between the auctioneer and the bidder associated with the selected bid.

Claim 45 (new): The computerized method of claim 44 where the auctioneer is a seller.

Claim 46 (new): The computerized method of claim 44 where the auctioneer is a buyer.

Claim 47 (new): The computerized method of claim 44 where the product terms or the service terms comprise product or service specifications, payment specifications, shipment terms, grade, packing specification, quality, quantity, origin, destination, payment terms, bank, currency, shipping dates, and/or auction specifications.

Claim 48 (new): The computerized method of claim 44 wherein selecting a bid is determined by predetermined criteria.

Claim 49 (new): The computerized method of claim 44 comprising agreeing to the one or more terms.

Claim 50 (new): The computerized method of claim 44 where negotiating comprises one or more firm offers and one or more firm counter offers.